

The Times-Dispatch

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1911.

TAX COMMISSION'S SPLENDID WORK.

With the possible exception of the institution of the Corporation Commission, no piece of legislation since the war promises as much for the welfare of Virginia as the general scheme of tax reform made public yesterday by the Tax Commission of Virginia.

For two years before the Tax Commission was formed The Times-Dispatch urged the need of immediate reformation of the tax laws and pointed out many of the inequalities and injustices which have been specifically named and elaborated by Dr. Douglas S. Freeman in his able and exhaustive report.

When the bill for the Tax Commission was before the Legislature The Times-Dispatch urged that Speaker Byrd be made a member of the commission, and it was largely in response to this paper's expressions that Speaker Byrd permitted his name to be considered.

After the commission was organized Dr. Freeman was chosen as the expert to whose charge the duty of collecting and tabulating the statistics was especially intrusted. The Times-Dispatch cordially and unreservedly commended the selection of Dr. Freeman, and it feels that by his report its belief in his capacity and fitness has been abundantly justified.

Altogether the commission has performed a splendid service to the State. Given information, the people of Virginia, through their Legislature, are ready and willing to strike out those untended crudities and gross inequalities that disfigure and in large measure destroy the system of taxation in this State.

At a later time we shall discuss this report in detail. It is now sufficient to say that the principle of uniform assessment of land, if enforced, will strike at once from the people of Virginia a widespread and heavy burden of injustice.

Why, for example, should lands be assessed at 90 per cent. of their market value in Richmond and at 10 per cent. of their market value in some of the counties? Why, indeed, when such differences have the effect of making the citizens of Richmond pay nine times as much for the support of the State government as their fellow citizens in other parts of Virginia?

The present taxation laws are a tangled and unwholly growth. We cannot leap to perfection; little by little unfair burdens must be removed, dark corners lighted up, crooked paths made straight, and the cost of government fairly distributed.

To clear away the jungle of our present tax laws is a painful and by no means swift or easy process, but there is in the report of the commission the sure promise that this will be done.

Many of the principles of taxation are still unknown or rather uncomprehended. In few States has this lack of comprehension been more general or more harmful than in Virginia. At least we now know, in the light of this report, how far we are from a perfect method. That knowledge can set Virginia on the way to lasting reform, and that way Virginia must go. If the coming Legislature should do nothing else but put into effect the spirit that has animated the Tax Commission, it would signalize itself as the most progressive Legislature Virginia has had since the war.

IRONICAL HISTORICAL SUGGESTION.

In the explanation in yesterday's Peking dispatches, that Russian officers and officials, if not the Russian government proper, influenced the forthcoming proclamation of the independence of Mongolia and the cutting off from China of her vast dependency of Turkestan, thus placing these areas in position for annexation by Russia at any time, there is a decidedly ironical historical suggestion. In the situation and the outlook we have merely the repetition of the old story of Russia controlling her hand behind individual acts until time becomes ripe for her to show it boldly and defiantly.

IT IS ALL THE SAME WITH RUSSIA, WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL BE OFFICER, OFFICIAL OR OUTLAW, AND SO IT HAS BEEN ALMOST EVER SINCE RUSSIA THREW OFF THE YOK OF THE GOLDEN KHAN AND BEGAN TO EMERGE FROM HER FORMATIVE PERIOD.

Especially it has been so since the Western powers, by the policy of European territorial proscription for the Muscovite, forced her civilization to become Asiatic more than Byzantine, to which it was inclined and inclining.

When the brigand Cossack Irmak Timofevitch, fleeing from the vengeance of Ivan the Terrible and the outraged law, after crossing the Ural with his band of some 600 fellow outlaws, secured the Tobol forta, defeated the Tartar Khan, Kutlum, sacked Stair, his capital, and placed under heavy tribute the Ittish and Old tribes, he acted in an individual capacity. But upon the drowning of this one-time fugitive in the Ittish he was proclaimed a hero, canonized by the Orthodox Church of Russia, and into and along the pathway he had blazed fol-

lowed first the trader, next the organized Cossack, and then immense territorial absorption, under governmental sanction.

The "protection" of the northern Amur part of Manchuria by Muraviev, and the planting of a Russian flag by a Russian, Captain Nevelskoi, at the mouth of the Amur River, were individual acts. Yet when the Russian Grand Chancellor, terrified at the prospect of war with China as the result of the captain's "irresponsible audacity," protested that his action be officially disavowed, his imperial master, according to Rambaud, replied: "When Russia's flag has been raised anywhere it should not be taken down." Thus again we had the trader, next the organized Cossack, then annexation.

For years it has been the trader, followed by the organized Cossack, in Turkestan and Mongolia, where the Russian officer and official and non-recognized officially emissary had been exercising individual influence. Judging the future by the past and by Russian methods, traditions, ambition and aspiration, to say nothing of enlarging commercial interests, the rest, the final sequence, cannot be a matter of conjecture.

The same Peking dispatches tell us that the Russian influence, due to the Turkestan and Mongolian coups, will flank the sphere of Japan in Manchuria perilously, and a Japanese alliance for the purpose of preserving Japanese interests may sooner or later be expected. No doubt, if the Japanese are wise in their generation they are capable of learning the most elementary lesson of self-preservation from the world's experience with Russian design and insatiable craving for power and territorial aggrandizement and dominion, from the knowledge which has been borne in on the world for generations, that with every Russian there is a conviction, amounting to a religious belief and superstition, that Russian control of the Pacific and command of China are written in her book of fate or destiny.

Among the lines in that book, although it is somewhat obscured now, is "possession of Korea," as Japan may yet read to her cost, despite the results of the Russo-Japanese War and the Russo-Japanese conventions that have been concluded since.

The peace of Portsmouth did not end the struggle between Russia and Japan for domination of the Hermit Kingdom, and it would be a reflection on the intelligence and pride of the Japanese to credit them with believing that it did, and conclude that they will not prepare to justify their unbelief, particularly in view of the Turkestan and Mongolian incidents.

BREAKING THE BUILDING RECORD.

Building operations in Richmond yesterday crossed the \$6,000,000 mark, and before the month is out it is probable that several large permits to build will swell the amount. With all that, Building Inspector Beck predicts that next year Richmond's record will not only exceed that of this year, but will far outstrip its nearest competitor, as, indeed, it may this year. Six million dollars' worth of building in a month! There has been no need to say, "Watch Richmond grow," for growth here is so irresistibly perceptible. Evidences of this growth meet the eye in every direction—towering skyscrapers are climbing upwards from their pits, yonder hospitals are rising, beautiful homes are opening their doors for the first time, flats are spreading out, stores and warehouses are peeping up—all new, all good to see, all showing far better than the old over-flowing sap that makes the municipal tree grow broader and tower higher and bud in every direction.

In the memory of the oldest inhabitant, there has been nothing before like what is going on now. New and up-to-date structures are replacing old houses and stores, and the air is pungent with paint and resonant with the sound of chisel and stone, hammer and nail, derrick and drill. What does it all mean? That Richmond is growing greater every day, becoming more and more beautiful, better and better to live in, bigger and busier than ever, with the red blood of a new youth in her veins and the fair promise of her vision materializing every day. The forces that are city-builders are at work, and the work is just beginning.

A PAYING APPROPRIATION.

Eight thousand dollars is the appropriation requested from the City Council by the Tuberculosis Camp Society of Richmond. That is but \$3,000 more than the usual appropriation, and the City Council can well afford to give the amount asked to this very great and useful work. Such an appropriation will be an investment which will bring in untold dividends in the form of better public health, greater freedom from the great white plague and the saving of human lives.

THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE TUBERCULOSIS CAMP SOCIETY WAS ORGANIZED LAST YEAR WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HOME FOR INDIGENT CONSUMPTIVES RESIDENT IN RICHMOND.

The city gave land for the purpose, and the supporters of the movement, after many efforts, raised enough money to put up an administration building and also to build an outside, open shack sufficient for the accommodation of ten men and ten women. Up to the present time, and from private subscriptions, \$12,111.69 has been raised, and the city appropriated towards the maintenance of the camp for the first year \$5,000, making a total of \$17,111.69. The total cost to date for the construction and equipment of the open shack and the administration building has amounted to \$19,968.75, and the expense of maintenance to date has amounted to \$6,136.

Every bed is occupied practically every night. Since the opening of the

camp seventy-two patients have been accepted and have received the best treatment by doctors and nurses.

A friend of the camp has lately given \$1,600 towards the building of an infirmary, to be used for the care of extremely ill patients, and the management is contracting for the construction of a new open-air shack, at a cost of about \$4,000, which will admit of the accommodation of twenty additional patients.

These additions will naturally increase the running expenses of the camp. The enlargement will afford accommodations for forty-four patients, instead of the average of twenty now taken care of. It will take, it is estimated about \$1,200 a month to maintain forty-four patients.

The camp has no endowments and no income, save the subscriptions of philanthropic citizens of Richmond. To this must be added the appropriation received from the city. The Tuberculosis Camp Society is not only bearing about one-half the cost of maintenance, but is actually expending now between \$5,000 and \$6,000 in additions and equipment for the plant.

The society is simply asking for an increase of \$3,000 in the city appropriation; the request is reasonable and fair. The Tuberculosis Camp is doing a great educational work in spreading knowledge as to how tuberculosis may be destroyed and sanitary conditions created. Furthermore, the sources of a great infection are removed and segregated at the camp. Money appropriated to this work means that the causes of infection will be destroyed, that the sick will be restored to health, and that much disease will be prevented. A reclaimed life means a reclaimed citizen. The preventive value of this camp alone ought to be enough to move the Council to aid it liberally. It is true of the public health of a city as it is of the health of an individual that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. The City Council can spend money to no better purpose than for the health of the citizen, and every dollar that goes to the camp makes for the physical safety and soundness of the citizens of Richmond.

AN ANTI-FIREWORKS LAW.

At its first opportunity the City Council should enact an ordinance prohibiting the sale of cannon crackers and bombs of all kinds and the firing of these crackers in the streets. It is understood that the Police Board favors such a law, and there can be no question that public sentiment demands the passage of a drastic measure designed to put a stop to the outrageous nuisance created by rowdies and thoughtless persons in their use of fireworks. To the law should be attached a heavy penalty, so great as to make the law a wholesome deterrent. As the law stands, the police are powerless to prevent the nuisance.

The use of fireworks this Christmas extended beyond the limits of abuse into outrage. Grown men and boys went about the city, flinging crackers wherever they pleased—sometimes right into the midst of groups of women and children. There was no regard for public safety or for the rights of others to be on the streets without molestation. The largest crackers were thrown under horses, greatly frightening them, and from windows these dangerous missiles were hurled at people on the street by concealed cowards who knew that they might do harm. By this disgraceful and dangerous conduct human life was imperiled and the public safety menaced.

Nor was this all. Hundreds of people were not allowed to sleep because of the noise of fireworks. The blowing of horns and the explosion of crackers made the night hideous. In another column W. R. Moore, of South Richmond, a citizen and tax-payer for twenty-three years, tells of his case. He was not allowed to sleep at all on the night before Christmas, and finally had to get up, take a car and go to a hotel to spend the rest of the night. It is made clear in his letter that the fireworks outrage invades the property rights of citizens, disturbs their homes, mars the peace of the most sacred day of the year, and menaces the health of the sick and the weak. Doubtless there are many who can voice the same complaint as that made by Mr. Moore.

The City Council should, by enacting a drastic ordinance, prevent any recurrence of the disgusting and dangerous conditions which existed this week.

MUNICIPAL FRUIT TREES.

The thrifty German municipality has many ways of making pin money which cities and towns in the United States have never tried. For example, many towns make a tidy income from the fruit of trees planted along the roadsides. The town of Linden, adjoining the city of Hanover, realized \$4,906 last autumn from this source. In the entire province of Hanover there are 7,000 miles of roads, with public-owned fruit trees along them.

During the three or four weeks while the fruit is ripening the roads are patrolled by watchmen mounted on bicycles, who are vigilant to see that no fruit is stolen. Especial care is taken on Sundays, when many more people use the highways.

To pick up fruit from the ground is unlawful, and to knock it from the trees means a fine of \$21. The German mind, however, is so finely constituted that the fact that a thing is forbidden means that it is not done. The watchmen have few arrests to make.

This form of municipal ownership can hardly be extended to this country. With all its already very hard here for an orchard owner to keep his fruit, and if the trees were by the side of the road, a \$21 fine would not be a deterrent for small boys and others.

Prince Adolph, the tall and handsome third son of the German Emperor, is twenty-seven and a bachelor, and

will soon visit this country. If he is looking for a future princess, Richmond is the place for him to come to.

"The fee male of the species—the lawyer, is the clever turning the Stanton Leader gives to Kipling's famous line. In Virginia the fee officer of the species is certainly much deadlier than any other kind in his effect on public economy.

Voice of the People

Fireworks Drove Him From Home. To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Please note that there is an inclination on the part of the City Council and the masses of the city to prohibit the use of fireworks in the city limits. Please allow me to voice my sentiments in reference to this matter, and my approval of the proposed change in the city ordinance.

On the night of December 24 I was not permitted to rest or sleep through the entire night, from the time of my retirement to bed, about 10 o'clock, until 5 o'clock, when I was awakened by the sound of fireworks. My room is well removed from the street, but the boys, and men, too, are sorry to say, bombarded my room throughout the entire night.

I naturally expected the same treatment to be administered during the succeeding night (Christmas night), and in order to protect myself and my own personal welfare, I was forced to go to a hotel and lodge, vacating my room which was mine, and which, just as one would do in time of war, I am boarding with a widow lady, who is dependent upon her boarders for support, and unless something is done I shall have to go to other quarters, where I can command or demand protection. This is a loss to this widow, whose family was torn from her, and who is just as degraded of an ordinance which will work an improvement in the way of protection to the helpless.

I am afflicted, being subject to epilepsy, and I am not in a position to subject myself to the shocking and unreasonable excitement, as any physician will tell you.

I have been living in this city for twenty-three years, and I have paid my taxes each and every year, the widow with whom I am boarding pays her taxes, and we must properly share the burden of the city. What can we expect of the city, if it does not protect its citizens? Can the city expect to grow and prosper as it is so much desired that it should unless encouraged to extend those who are in a position to withstand these unnecessary shocks.

I can see no reason why, when Christmas, the most sacred day of the year, approaches, we should go so far astray as to do away with all law and order and unite in a drunken misbehavior, which is a disgrace to the city.

God grant that the good citizens of this great and beloved city may use their every effort to prevent in the future what we have experienced in the past. Remember that the offender shall eat the fruit of the land, and our action may diminish the sufferings of many a helpless citizen.

Richmond.

No More War for This Confid.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—In a little item in this morning's Times-Dispatch you ask the question: "What is the use of the war?" I am not a soldier, but I am a citizen. I have not had a loaded gun in my hand since the surrender at Appomattox. It was my stomach, Governor Mann can take his son and his sword, and his rifle, and rush into the Russian war, and I will be for me and my two boys, we would not fancy the noise, prefer more peace to war. Indeed, there may be some Turk mix-up, but I am not a Turk. Turpins never took much stock in tainting tainted turkeys. Should "we-us" conspire to capture or capture any of these generals, or if we could not spell their name or pronounce the same.

WM. H. TURPIN.

Advice From a Veteran Legislator.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—After reading the report of the audit delivered before the Senate Finance Committee, I am somewhat surprised to find that the fact that our State finances have been managed so well, and while our legislative appropriations since 1900 have been larger and larger, yet when the casual reader recalls some facts, he is not much more surprised than they really are.

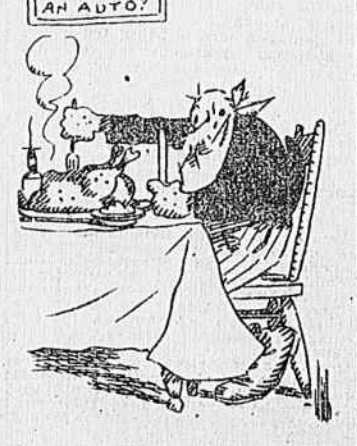
The assessment of our real estate was made in 1905, before and since, State tax, 20 cents on \$100 for general purposes, 10 cents for school purposes, and 5 cents for Confederate pensions. No increase of high rate, we were in the rate of taxation. And yet our annual appropriations have added new subjects and largely increased total amount. We have built four normal schools at Harrisonburg and Fredericksburg, and commenced a female normal school at Radford; we have instituted high schools; we have increased the pension fund, and yet there is a deficiency of 10 per cent. in paying pensions in full; we have turned specially to the health of our State and made large appropriations for the benefit of suffering humanity; we have organized and are supporting the Board of Charities; we have done much for the agricultural interests; in fact, we have increased our expenditures at least 15 per cent. increased appropriations for our institutions of learning have been absolutely necessary from 1905 to February 28, 1911. We have made for "good roads" appropriations amounting to \$49,200.

And this, with the increased appropriations and rate of taxation, and yet no surprise that our finances are in such a good shape? This true our revenue will be larger in 1911 in consequence of the increased assessment of our real estate in 1910, but even then our State can continue these annual appropriations for \$100,000.

Forty-five thousand dollars, now de-

Abe Martin

WHAT IS HOME WITHOUT AN AUTO?

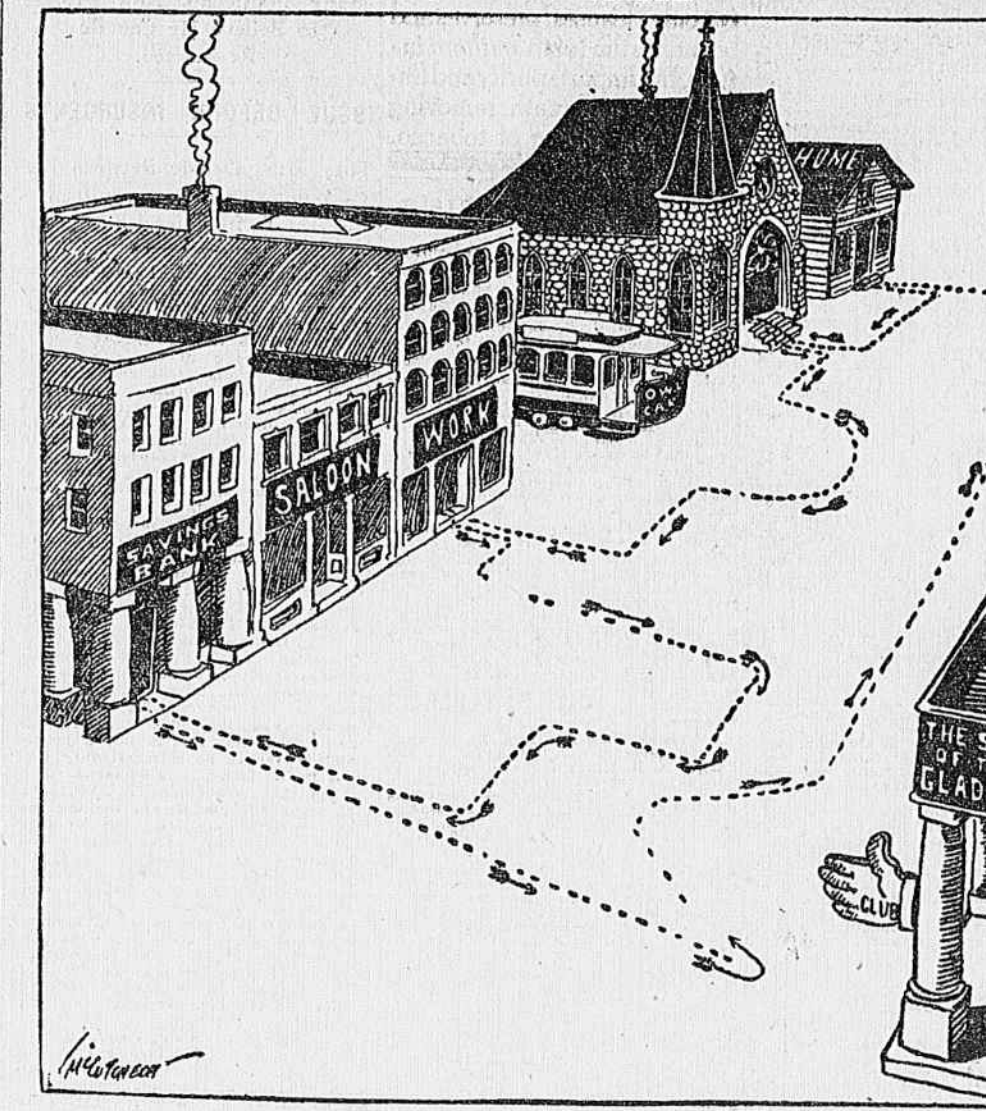


Mr. Ben Davis, apple like the German car, is at the right to know how to disguise it. Some fellows are a regular circus for the girls when it comes to

PROPOSED LINE OF MARCH FOR 1912.

By John T. McCutcheon.

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gent in paying pensions, that should be made up; then that will increase the pension fund from \$450,000 to \$500,000 annually; we must properly care for the State hospitals, regardless of cost; it would be a great misfortune to cripple our educational system by any State government must be kept in any court, of course, must be in good working order. Can we cut down appropriations for "good roads" for "good roads" from February 28, 1911, to February 28, 1912, amount to \$251,800, largely more than the reported deficit—\$250,000. We can wait a while for "good roads" appropriations. Virginia waited to 1908 before an appropriation for "good roads." I had rather see our roads as at present than see our county porches or see the unfortunate insane neglected, or see our educational growth impeded, or see our State government crippled, or see our agricultural interests suffer, or see Virginia's splendid institutions of learning suffer. If the counties wish "good roads" for the automobiles, let them build the turnpikes for the automobiles to spin along for pleasure. Let the counties that wish issue bonds for "good roads" do so. I have never received any aid from the State for roads, and our roads are better than roads in counties that have been aided by the State. Never increase the rate of taxation. Cut down or strike out entirely, if necessary, appropriations for "good roads." Abolish the "good roads" appropriation of thousands of dollars. Observe economy in all appropriations in the future, as in the past, and Virginia will remain all right financially. Virginia's financial experience since 1860 and her political achievements in her "much troubled" while debt warrant me in saying that Virginia can do as well as we can have a Democratic administration, or all our State departments—executive, judicial and legislative—Virginia, or Virginia, and Virginia for Virginia.

Woods Cross Roads.

Anti-Suffragist on Lawyer's View.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—I read with some interest the address delivered before the Y. W. C. A. by Hill Carter, of the anti-suffrage and the plaintiffs which accompanied it. It occurs to me that the fee system and the rate of dollars is a known fact to Mr. Carter, and suffrage is granted it could only be done by proxy, and just here I would like to ask Mr. Carter if he would be willing for his wife, daughter or sister to go to the polls if the privilege was extended, mixing, as they naturally be, men who would necessarily be found there? He is also, no doubt, advised of the fact that there is probably more whiskey drunk on that day than any other day in the year with the exception of New Year's Christmas. The English common law as laid down by Blackstone emphasizes the fact that man and wife are recognized as one, and there was never any distinction of class or kind to be drawn in this State until the Smith bill, which, I think, was passed some time in the seventies, which delegated to the wife the right of owning property as a "feme sole," which, however, no good woman ever thought of doing. It is clearly a case of a woman unsexing herself when she is willing possibly to divide opinion with her husband and forget her home and children. She is never so perfect as when womanly. In conclusion I ask Mr. Carter, or any one else of his opinion, would you be willing for your wife, daughter or sister to go to the polls if the privilege was granted? If so, go home and apologize to your people. I do not consider politics clean enough for a decent man (though a woman by necessity), much less a refined woman.

MRS. L. H. P. HUDSON.

Richmond.

La Marquise de Fontenoy

LORD LAMINGTON, who will be remembered at Washington as having officiated as best man at the wedding there of Lord Curzon to the beautiful and dainty Lady Mary Leiter, has been so thoroughly exasperated by the policy of the Asquith administration, with regard to Persia, that instead of remaining to spend the Christmas holidays with his family at Lamington Castle, in Lanarkshire, he has left for Teheran, with the avowed intention of giving his support to Korgan Shuter, the young American Treasurer-General of the Persian government, also to encourage the latter to struggle to retain his independence, and to obtain material for a crushing indictment of the present attitude of the English foreign office, with re-

gard to Persia and to Russia's activities in that country. It is understood that Lord Lamington is in full accord with his old-time chum and crony, Lord Curzon, in the matter.

Lord Lamington is no mere tyro in Persian affairs, having achieved considerable fame as an Asian explorer. He was the first white man to enter and explore the Shun States, and on one occasion disappeared for so long a period in the hills of Asia that he was given up for lost, subsequently returning, however, to civilization with a wonderful amount of information. He has been in turn Governor of Queensland and Governor of Bombay, which latter post he was compelled to resign on account of the health of his wife, who was one of the girlhood friends of Queen Mary, and is now one of her ladies in waiting.

In Australia Lord Lamington endeavored himself to the people and appealed to their sporting instincts, by mastering the difficult art of breaking part of Mexico and of Spain, has traveled in Russian Armenia, from Tiflis to Ararat, and is known among his friends and intimates as "Wallace," not only because it is one of his Christian names, but because of his pride in his descent from Scotland's most famous hero, Sir William Wallace.

According to the popular legend current throughout Scotland, and there universally believed, the nation's savior contracted a marriage with the fair Marion de Bradfort, of Lamington castle. She was killed some years later by the English, after having successfully manœuvred the escape of her husband, but left a daughter, who became one of the Balfours, who became later by the English, the owner of Lamington. Their son, William, that is, the grandson of Sir William Wallace, married the present Lord Lamington is the eighteenth in descent.

In 1817 Lamington Castle had been inherited by Mathilda Balfour. She married Admiral Sir John Balfour, John Cochrane, G. C. B., grandson of the eighth Earl of Dundonald, and the son of the first Marquis of Balfour, assumed, on succeeding to Lamington Castle and to the other property of both his parents, their names of Cochrane-Balfour as his patronymic. She married Admiral Sir John Balfour, John Cochrane, G. C. B., grandson of the eighth Earl of Dundonald, and the son of the first Marquis of Balfour, assumed, on succeeding to Lamington Castle and to the other property of both his parents, their names of Cochrane-Balfour as his patronymic.

On the occasion of a meeting of the Royal Anthropological Society at Munich, some time ago, its president, the eminent Professor Johannes Ranke, expressed himself somewhat sarcastically about the practice of both men and women wearing too tightly laced corsets, the prince, who was present, arose, as soon as over the professor had resumed his seat, and demanded whether Dr. Ranke's remarks were aimed at the corsets of the First Regiment of Heavy Cavalry, a crack corps to which he belongs, and who are renowned for their close-fitting uniforms, and also whether the professor's utterances were to be construed as an allusion to his Austrian mother, Princess Leopold, who, with a rather full figure, has a wonderfully small waist.

Not until the distinguished savant had pledged himself that he had never recanted either of the princess or of the officers of the prince's regiment of heavy cavalry in connection with his denunciations of the evils of tight lacing, was the anger of this youthful scion of the reigning house of Bavaria appeased. His father, Prince Leopold, is the second son of the nonagenarian Prince-Regent of Bavaria.

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short and stocky Archduke Frederick, and of his Belgian wife, Archduchess Isabella, sister of the late Duke Charles of Crois, of Brussels. Prince George of Saxony has little or no fortune, whereas young Archduke Isabella, the daughter of a young man, has a heavily dowered, since her father, a brother of Queen Christina of Spain, is one of the wealthiest princes of the blood in Europe. Archduke Frederick has no less than six sisters, but rather homely daughters. Archduchess Isabella being the fourth, and Archduchess Christine being the fifth. The second daughter, Archduchess Maria Theresia, is the consort of Prince George, who is the youngest brother, though chief heir, of the late Duke of Parma. Archduchess Zita, Archduchess Henrietta is wedded to Prince Godolphin, Duke of Edinburgh, and Archduchess Maria Theresia is the consort of Prince George, who is the youngest brother, though chief heir, of the late Duke of Parma.

With regard to Prince George, he is like his fiancée, quite the reverse of good looking, but nevertheless a first-class sportsman, very wide awake, and the favorite companion of his grandfather, old Emperor Francis Joseph, on the latter's shooting excursions. Prince George's mother, the venerable sovereign of the Dual Empire, Prince George, indeed, has his own suite of apartments, and is engaged exclusively to his use, at the Palace of Schoenbrunn, at Vienna, and in the Emperor's mountain shooting-box, or rather Chalet, of Murren, in Switzerland, at Ischl. He is formerly engaged to Archduchess Germaine, a sister of the ex-Governor of Saxony, but the match was broken off. It is believed at the instance of the Emperor himself, who did not wish his favorite grandson to marry into a family so recently the subject of a scandalous branch of the house of Hapsburg. Prince George is of a very frangible disposition, which resulted in his bringing about a Cabinet crisis at Munich, 1906, by a violent attack upon the administration, in the upper chamber, indeed, although but twenty-nine years of age, he is already noted for his proneness to anger, and his readiness to take offense, defects which go far to diminish the good will which would otherwise be excited by his cleverness, his warm-heartedness, and his wide-awake spirit of initiative.

Of his temper, I may mention that on the occasion of a meeting of the Royal Anthropological Society at Munich, some time ago, its president, the eminent Professor Johannes Ranke, expressed himself somewhat sarcastically about the practice of both men and women wearing too tightly laced corsets, the prince, who was present, arose, as soon as over the professor had resumed his seat, and demanded whether Dr. Ranke's remarks were aimed at the corsets of the First Regiment of Heavy Cavalry, a crack corps to which he belongs, and who are renowned for their close-fitting uniforms, and also whether the professor's utterances were to be construed as an allusion to his Austrian mother, Princess Leopold, who, with a rather full figure, has a wonderfully small waist. Not until the distinguished savant had pledged himself that he had never recanted either of the princess or of the officers of the prince's regiment of heavy cavalry in connection with his denunciations of the evils of tight lacing, was the anger of this youthful scion of the reigning house of Bavaria appeased. His father, Prince Leopold, is the second son of the nonagenarian Prince-Regent of Bavaria.

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